

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 053434

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PL, US

SUBJECT: POLISH PROTEST ABOUT SECURITY SITUATION IN U.S.

REF: WARSAW 1344 AND 1345

1. POLISH DCM WIEJACZ CALLED ON EUR/EE DIRECTOR ANDREWS ON MARCH 2 TO EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT THE PUBLICATION OF AN ARTICLE IN THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS OF FEBRUARY 27 (SEE TEXT BELOW) WHICH IDENTIFIES TWO POLISH DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK AS BEING SPIES. HE SAID THAT SECURITY SITUATION FOR POLISH OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. IS BECOMING MORE DIFFICULT AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS. FIRST SECRETARY DUCHOWSKI ADDED THAT IN JANUARY AN ANONYMOUS LETTER HAD ALSO BEEN SENT TO SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS IN THE CHICAGO AREA LISTING CERTAIN POLISH OFFICIALS IN THAT CITY AS KGB AND MSW AGENTS (SEE PARA. 8)

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2. ANDREWS SAID THAT UNFORTUNATELY SUCH THINGS SEEM

TO BE HAPPENING EVERYWHERE. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL AND HAS THE MAKINGS OF AN INTERNATIONAL EPIDEMIC. WE ARE SORRY THAT THIS HAD HAPPENED AND RECOGNIZE THAT IT MAKES LIFE MORE DIFFICULT FOR POLISH OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS APPARENTLY DESIRE TO RETALIATE FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THE NAMES OF ALLEGED CIA AGENTS ABROAD.

THESE ARE SHORT-SIGHTED, MISCONCEIVED ACTIONS, BUT WE DO NOT KNOW HOW TO STOP THEM. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO STOP PUBLICATION OF NAMES IN SEVERAL WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

3. WIEJACZ NOTED THAT THE ARTICLE IS BASED ON A REPORT FROM FREE POLAND MAGAZINE. ANDREWS SAID THAT UNLESS FREE POLAND VIOLATES U.S. LAW WE CANNOT PREVENT IT FROM DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE FALSE AND WE CANNOT STOP NEWSPAPERS FROM PUBLISHING IT. THERE ARE U.S. LIBEL LAWS, BUT THEY ARE WEAK. WE WOULD LIKE TO PREVENT THE IRRESPONSIBLE DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION ABOUT POLISH PERSONNEL, BUT WE ARE NOT SURE WE HAVE ANY LEGAL GROUNDS TO DO SO. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE ARE PROVISIONS IN U.S. LAW DEALING WITH THREATS TO FOREIGN OFFICIALS. ALTHOUGH THE GROUNDS FOR LEGAL ACTION IN THE PRESENT INSTANCE APPEAR UNCERTAIN, WE WOULD INFORM THE PROPER AUTHORITIES AND ASK THEM TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF FREE POLAND GENERALLY, THE BEST AND PROBABLY THE ONLY DEFENSE IS FOR POLISH OFFICIALS TO DEVELOP A "TOUGH SKIN".

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE ANONYMOUS LETTER DISTRIBUTED IN CHICAGO, ANDREWS CALLED UPON THE EMBASSY TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY IF POLISH OFFICIALS RECEIVE ANY THREATENING PHONE CALLS OR LETTERS. WE WOULD BE MOST CONCERNED IF THIS MARKED THE BEGINNING OF A CONCERTED CAMPAIGN AGAINST POLISH DIPLOMATS, AND WE WOULD DO EVERYTHING WE COULD TO ASSURE THE PROTECTION OF POLISH OFFICIALS. IF CONSULAR OFFICERS IN CHICAGO ENCOUNTER ANY DIFFICULTIES, ANDREWS URGED THAT THEY PROMPTLY REPORT THE INCIDENT TO THE POLICE AND FBI AS WELL AS TO THE EMBASSY AND THE DEPARTMENT. WIEJACZ SAID THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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THE CONSULATE HAS GOOD CONTACTS WITH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

5. THE GENERAL TONE OF THE MEETING WAS FRIENDLY THROUGHOUT AND, ALTHOUGH WIEJACZ HAD ASKED FOR MEETING ON SHORT NOTICE, HE GAVE NO REPEAT NO INDICATION OF ANY SORT THAT GOP REGARDED THIS AS ANYTHING MORE THAN A ROUTINE MATTER. HE APPROACHED THE WHOLE SUBJECT IN A LOW-KEY FASHION WHICH SERIOUSLY UNDERSTATED THE APPARENT

CONCERN OF HIS SUPERIORS IN WARSAW. DUCHOWSKI TOOK ONLY PERFUNCTORY NOTES WHICH HE SCRIBBLED ON A PIECE OF SCRATCH PAPER.

6. WIEJACZ AND DUCHOWSKI DID NOT EXPRESS "INDIGNATION" AND DID NOT REFER TO THE OTHER INCIDENTS OF HARASSMENT CITED IN POLISH AIDE-MEMOIRE (WARSAW 1344).

7. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE IN DAILY NEWS:
QUOTE CHARGE 2 POLISH ENVOYS SPY HERE. AN ANTI-COMMUNIST POLISH MAGAZINE CALLED FREE POLAND YESTERDAY CHARGED THAT TWO POLISH DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK ARE SPIES WORKING UNDER THE COVER OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY.

THE REPORT CAME ONE DAY AFTER NOVOYE RUSSKOYE SLOVO, A RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE DAILY NEWSPAPER HERE, CHARGED THAT FIVE DIPLOMATS IN THE SOVIET MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS WERE AGENTS OF THE KGB--THE KREMLIN'S EQUIVALENT OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

WRITING IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE COMBAT ORGANIZATION FREE POLAND, COL. JAN WALCZAK, WHOSE TITLE IS CHIEF OF COMBAT ACTION, SAID THAT JANUSZ KUCZAWSKI, WHO IS VICE-CONSUL IN THE POLISH CONSULATE-GENERAL HERE, "IS A RESIDENT OF INTELLIGENCE (CHIEF OF THE ESPIONAGE NET WORK) ON BEHALF OF THE SECURITY SERVICE OF THE MINISTRY FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS."

THE SECOND DIPLOMAT NAMED BY FREE POLAND WAS ZENON MILIK, WHO IS THE COUNSELOR TO THE POLISH MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE MAGAZINE SAID THAT MILIK IS "CHIEF OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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INTELLIGENCE UNIT ATTACHED TO THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION."

IT ADDED THAT "IT IS NOT CLEAR IF MILIK IS A CHIEF OF A SEPARATE ESPIONAGE NETWORK ON BEHALF OF THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (SO-CALLED INFORMATION SERVICE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC) OR SIMILAR TO KUCZAWSKI, ON BEHALF OF THE SECURITY SERVICE OF THE MINISTRY FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS OR MAYBE ON BEHALF OF BOTH."

NEITHER KUCZAWSKI NOR MILIK WAS AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT ON THE REPORT.

DR. KONSTANTY Z. HANFF OF FREE POLAND SAID THAT IT WAS DECIDED TO PUBLISH THE NAMES, PRIVATE ADDRESSES AND

TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF "FIVE TOP KGB OPERATIVES AT THE UNITED NATIONS BECAUSE OF THE HAND OF THE KGB IN PUBLISHING DETAILS ABOUT CIA AGENTS THAT LED TO THE DEATH OF RICHARD WELCH, CIA STATION CHIEF IN ATHENS." WELCH WAS ASSASSINATED LAST DECEMBER 23. UNQUOTE

8. FOLLOWING IS LIST OF POLISH OFFICIALS IN CHICAGO: QUOTE "BLACK LIST" OF KGB AND MSW AGENTS EMPLOYED BY POLISH CONSULATE GENERAL AND OTHER BUSINESS FIRMS.

KROL ZENON, 1415 N. DEARBORN, CHICAGO, ILL. 60610, 944-2194, POLISH CONSULATE GENERAL;

KROPINIEWICZ TADEUSZ, 1221 N. DEARBORN, CHICAGO, ILL. 60610, 266-1095, PEKAO TRADING CORPORATION

MICKIEWICZ WIESLAW, 5415 N. SHERIDAN, CHICAGO, ILL. 60640, 334-2052, POLISH CONSULATE GENERAL

REV. PAWELEK MICHAL, 5730 W. FULLERTON, CHICAGO, ILL. 60639, BE7-1474, POLONIA TRAVEL AGENCY

SZYMANSKI STANISLAW, 1560 N. SANDBURG TERR., CHICAGO, ILL. 60610, 337-0109, POLISH CONSULATE GENERAL

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WEGLARCZYK STANISLAW, 1445 N. STATE PKWY, CHICAGO, ILL. 60610, 787-9586, POLISH CONSULATE GENERAL. UNQUOTE

9. SOVIETS HAVE BEEN GREATLY EXERCISED BY RECENT "FREE POLAND" PUBLICITY IDENTIFYING ALLEGED SOVIET INTELLIGENCE AGENTS AND BY FIRING OF SHOTS INTO SOVIET RESIDENCE IN RIVERDALE, NEW YORK LAST WEEK. THEIR REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY FORCEFUL AND INCLUDED UNVEILED THREATS THAT AMERICAN OFFICIALS ABROAD WILL SUFFER. WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT SPASOWSKI'S VIGOROUS PROTEST MAY BE IN PART SOVIET-INSPIRED.

10. IN ANY CASE, IDENTIFYING OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ABROAD (OURS, SOVIET, OR POLISH) WITH ACCOMPANYING INVIDIOUS LITERATURE REPRESENTS POTENTIALLY SERIOUS PROBLEM ABOUT WHICH GOVERNMENTS ARE LEGITIMATELY CONCERNED. WE WILL, THEREFORE, BE CALLING IN POLISH AMBASSADOR OR DCM MARCH 5 TO CORRECT ANY POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDING REGARDING OUR CONCERN FOR SAFETY OF ACCREDITED POLISH PERSONNEL AND TO INDICATE THAT WE ARE

DOING ALL WE CAN TO FULFILL OUR OBLIGATIONS TO ASSURE
THEM PROPER WORKING CONDITIONS. WE WILL PROVIDE MATERIAL
FOR YOU TO MAKE PARALLEL RESPONSE TO SPASOWSKI.
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